

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A method for operating an electronic purse system that is provided with a system key to protect transactions and to verify that a secure access module (SAM) and a purse card belong to the same system, and in order to provide personal access to access stations in said system, said access stations in said system being arranged for loading and/or debiting said purse card with an amount of money, the method ~~being characterized by~~ comprising the steps of:

maintaining a plurality of user groups that are allowed to use said system by using a float ID that is characteristic for each user group for uniquely associating each money flow effectuated by a person throughout said system with a respective user group; and

generating a data set which comprises said float ID and a currency indicator specifying a transaction currency.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which for each load or debit process, or for accumulated process data from previous load and debit processes, a data set is generated which comprises said float ID.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which the float ID is used to separately track the money flows associated with said float ID throughout said purse system, from the purse card up to a purse provider's accounting system.

5. ✓ (Cancelled)

6. ✓ (Cancelled)

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(Original) A computer program comprising code portions adapted for performing the steps of the method of claim 1 when said program is loaded into a secure access module.

8.5 (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

reading a float ID and currency indicator from an electronic purse presented by a user, said data set being generated only if said float ID and said currency indicator specify a user group and currency supported by said system.

9. (New) An electronic purse system that is provided with a system key to protect transactions and to verify that a secure access module (SAM) and a purse card belong to the same system, and in order to provide personal access to access stations in said system, said access stations in said system being arranged for loading and/or debiting said purse card with an amount of money, the system comprising:

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means for maintaining a plurality of user groups that are allowed to use said system by using a float ID that is characteristic for each user group for uniquely associating each money flow effectuated by a person throughout said system with a respective user group; and

means for generating a data set which comprises said float ID and a currency indicator specifying a transaction currency .

10. (New) The system of claim 9, further comprising:

means for reading a float ID and currency indicator from an electronic purse presented by a user, said data set being generated only if said float ID and said currency indicator specify a user group and currency supported by said system.

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11.

(New) An electronic data carrier for personal use in the system of claim ⁶9, said electronic data carrier storing a float ID specifying a user group and a currency indicator specifying a transaction currency.
